

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OR,

Political, Commercial, and Literary Gazette.

[Vol. VI.]

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1849.

[No. 276]

General Summary of News.

EUROPE.

Although the affairs of our native land justly claim pre-eminence in the gradations of importance which we attach to European articles of intelligence, yet those of the other countries of Europe should not be wholly forgotten. We have gone into great length in our reports of proceedings from the English Papers; but a series of French Journals having been put into our possession about the same period, we have devoted a page of our present Number to translations from these, confining ourselves to such articles as we conceive likely to have attracted as large a share of the attention of our readers, if the French Journals had fallen into their hands, as they have done of ours, since they have been in our own.

Genoa.—A rare and singular instance of early talent is cited at Genoa. A young girl of 11 years of age, had already gone through a course of rhetoric, and had studied philosophy, and three months afterwards she supported to the great astonishment of the audience, three philosophical theses. In the following month, she renewed the same prodigy, and maintained three other propositions in the house of her Instructor, the Theologian and Priest Natta, aged 82 years. This young person is Mademoiselle Marie Catherine Borard; she was born at Sarolo, in the valley of Onello.

Rome.—A monk of the monastery of Saint Scholastique de Subico, in searching for the traces of the twelve monasteries of Saint Benoit, discovered at first a large wall of a description of building called *Opus Reticulatum*, and on further digging, a vast building which is supposed to have belonged to Nero; they have already discovered a portion of it of 260 feet, and 12 chambers, some square and others circular, besides a large aqueduct of 200 feet. This colossal monument appears to be one of the most magnificent that has escaped, during eighteen centuries, the injuries of time.

Paris.—A most affecting ceremony took place here lately in the Chapel of the Temple. A very young person, Mademoiselle de Lestrade, took the veil, and pronounced her vows in the religious community of which Madame la Princesse Louise de Condé is the Superior. Monsieur d'Astros, appointed to the Bishopric of Orange, officiated on the occasion, and Monsieur L'Abbé MacCarthy pronounced a most pathetic and eloquent discourse. The audience were several times most deeply affected, and acknowledged by their tears the moving power of the orator. There were remarked among this audience, Madame la Duchesse de Bourbon, the Ambassador of Saxony, several other persons of distinction, and the mother of the young person who consecrated herself to God and religion.

Madame la Comtesse d'Anglars, formerly Baroness of Lestrade, Madame la Princesse Louise de Condé received with a dignity, tempered by all the graces of affability and mildness, the vows pronounced by Mademoiselle Lestrade, with much firmness, piety, and fervour.

Rochelle.—A young girl, an illegitimate child, without fortune, after having for a long time resisted the pressing instances of her mother, was at length decided to espouse a young man named Touillée, as deformed in person and in character, as the young *Nigonet* was pretty. The gift, by way of marriage contract, of all the effects of the young man, had induced her to accept his hand; but he had not by this act become more amiable in the eyes of his wife, and he complained of the little affection she evinced for him. She on her part showed the marks of her husband's ill-treatment.

The Mayor was a witness of this misunderstanding, which he in vain endeavoured to put an end to, and shortly after the marriage had remarked the lean visage and hectic flush of the young Touillée. On his return after a short absence he learnt that Touillée was dead. This death awakening his suspicions, he resolved to inspect the body; but it was already buried. Not having any indications sufficiently strong, to justify the digging up the body, he merely imparted his suspicions to the Civil Judge, who deemed them too vague to deserve any attention.

A few days afterwards, the widow Touillet complained confidentially to the Mayor, that a man named Renouveau, wishing to force her to espouse his son, they instantly proposed the contract, and on her refusing to comply, threatened to accuse her of having poisoned her husband. The Mayor questioned her as to this accusation, which she denied; he caused Renouveau to come before him; and he, supposing all was known, avowed the murder and acknowledged that he himself had furnished the arsenic, which he procured at two different periods from an old Surgeon of the commune of Momac.

Renouveau pretends that the young Touillée had requested this poison of him to rid herself of her husband, whom she could no longer endure; the latter on the contrary as well as her mother, accuse Renouveau both of the project and the solicitations to effect it. The remainder of the poison has in fact been found in his house, and the whole of his conduct and conversation proves, that passionately enamoured of this young girl, he only wished to make her marry his son that she might be nearer to himself, and that he did not at all regard the means by which this end was accomplished.

Furious at being deceived in his hopes, he now wishes to avenge himself by denouncing his unhappy accomplice; satisfied as he says, to perish if he only beholds her mount the scaffold with him. They are both, as well as the mother *Nigonet*, now in the prison of *Marennes*.

Russia.—The Russian Government have lately prepared two Expeditions of Discovery, of the highest importance. Each of these Expeditions are composed of two ships. One is proceeding to the Arctic and the other to the Antarctic Pole. There existed such an enthusiasm on the subject in their *Marine*, that on the first rumour of the intention, more than 60 officers, it is said, instantly addressed the Minister of the Department, soliciting to form a part of these Expeditions.

Moscow.—A bell has been cast at Moscow, which weighs 4000 puds, (the pud is 20 lbs.) It is seven archines (about 16 feet) high, and is 6 feet in diameter; it is destined to replace that which was formerly on the tower of Ivan the great, and which was damaged by the French. This new bell weighs 445 puds more than the old one; the clapper alone weighs 120 puds.

The Russian fleet at Cronstadt had sailed, in order to improve in naval practice, as it is said.

A Russian Courier has arrived at Copenhagen, said to be with important dispatches.

The levy for the French army has again been effected in Champagne, Picardy, and French Flanders, without opposition. In Burgundy it met with some resistance, and the aid of the *gens d'armes* was required. People who would excite disorder, had spread reports that war was at hand.

The Paris Papers of July say that the King had removed his residence to St. Cloud, where his Majesty proposes to remain one month.

Letters from Sweden say, that that Power is expending large sums in putting her marine on a respectable footing.

The Press in several free states of Germany has been put under restraint, for publishing articles displeasing to the three great Continental Despots!

More than forty new Journals have either been announced or published in Germany since the Congress of Aix-la Chapelle, and the number increases.

According to accounts from the Havannah, the people of Cuba had resolved to send three Deputies to Spain, to offer 60 millions of dollars to Ferdinand VII. for its independence.

Accounts from Constantinople state, that the plague has manifested itself with new violence in Candia and Smyrna, and that great apprehensions are entertained of its extending to Constantinople itself.

England.—We have already given our readers too abundant proof of the disturbed state of England, in the reports of Meetings held in various parts of the country. We would fain present them with more agreeable matter if it could be done without a breach of fidelity, but the Papers in our possession teem so thickly with subjects of a gloomy kind, that in reporting their contents we have no choice left between silence, and the relation of that which we are aware will be painful to be read, though it is indispensable to be taken into account in estimating aright the nature of the prospects which public affairs hold forth. The following are verbatim from the English Journals of July:—

A meeting for Parliamentary Reform was held at Blackburn, on Monday July 12, and passed over without mischief. Among the resolutions was one of thanks to Cobbet, for his able conduct in the cause of liberty; and that he be invited to return, "to take his place at the head of the people!" The person who seconded this motion said Mr. Cobbet will return to his country, and be in Manchester, when he expected to see every person whose face he now saw in full march, &c.—There were from 7 to 8000 persons assembled, among whom were many women and children. The principal speakers were Parson Harrison (so conspicuous at Stockport), Knight, Saxon, Wroe, Mitchell, and Fitton, from Manchester, all noted for their violent principles; also Latus, Dewhurst, and Harrison, obscure but busy characters, of Blackburn. With repugnance we mention, that one novel and most disgusting scene took place:—a deputation from the Blackburn Female reform society mounted the stage, to present a cap of liberty, and an address to the meeting. The latter was read, and in it the women composing the society "pledged themselves to instill into the minds of their children a hatred of (what they are pleased to call) civil and religious tyranny!" These women then mixed with the orators, and remained on the hustings during the rest of the day. Mitchell made a severe attack on the middle orders for their "apathy," and said, that should the reformers triumph they could not complain if measures were adopted to relieve the lower orders at their expense. The most zealous partisans at this meeting were those from Padibam and Burnley: they were armed with large bludgeons, and a true revolutionist from the former place said to those around him, that his townsmen got up by three o'clock in the morning to learn their exercise! The proceedings of the meeting were disturbed twice, in consequence of a strange panic which seized the people, who, imagining that they heard the approach of a troop of horse soldiers, scampered with consternation in all directions. Order was, however, soon restored; and after having passed votes of thanks to Sir Charles Wolsely, and the ladies present, the meeting dissolved.—*Leeds Paper.*

The same Leeds Paper says, —A Sunday-School has been established for some time at Manchester, for the purpose of teaching Children to hate Kings and priests; it is conducted by Reformers. Thus they hope to increase their ranks, by alienating children from the worship of Almighty God on a Sunday, and imbuing their minds with the principles of infidelity and jacobinism; a sufficient comment upon their schemes, when they acknowledge that they are unable to accomplish them, except by destroying the obligations of religion and the foundations of morality.

During the last week a Reforming Female visited Leigh and the neighbourhood, to disseminate revolutionary principles in the families of the working-people, to whom she expatiated on the necessity of altering things, and descanted fluently on the usual topics of reform. But perhaps the most singular, as it was certainly the most degrading part of her mission, was to instruct them in the manufacture of the revolutionary pike; a formidable weapon which has been introduced into various parts of this neighbourhood, and the existence of which now remains no longer a matter of doubt. She was precise in her directions.

At Tuam, in Ireland, the Catholic Archbishop refused to confirm a young man who had worked on *Saints' days*, of which the calendar counts about 50!

W. and C. Crowther, (father and son,) were tried lately at the Old Bailey, for stealing the Worcester Bank parcel, with £8000 inclosed, from the Bull and Mouth Tap, and acquitted.

In a Town not far from Leeds, a man and his wife were quarrelling violently in the street, as the churchwarden was going his round. He quaintly observed—"Whom God hath joined let no man put asunder!" and placed the wrangling pair—in the stocks!

Rapid Emigration.—Seven hundred and thirty-three settlers arrived at Quebec from the 20th to the 24th May.

The Constellation, from Ireland to New Brunswick, with 140 passengers was lost on the coast of Nova Scotia. Passengers, saved.

Fruits of self-election and non-responsibility.—Our readers are aware that this system has prevailed in all its vigour in the Scotch Boroughs, and the following State of the Funds of the City of Edinburgh, which has been thought to light by the investigation made in consequence of Lord Archibald Hamilton's motion, shows the natural bearing and tendency of the system.

By the report of the Committee on the state of the City of Edinburgh, we see that according to the evidence of the City Accountant,

The expenditure beyond its income amounted in the ten years preceding Martinmas, 1816, to.....	£88,241 0 0
The super-expenditure for the year ending at Martinmas, 1817, to 18.....	036 12 0
The super-expenditure for 1818, was.....	18,242 16 0
And the probable deficiency in future will be per annum.....	16,312 17 8

In the above is included the sum of 4,312*l.* being the annual deficiency in the produce of the Leith Docks.

The amount of debt, due by the City of Edinburgh, including that on the Dock Fund, is 497,000*l.*

Distress.—The accounts of the Meetings in England, which appear in the first column of this page, are from the reports of writers who can apparently speak of the extremes to which infatuated men and women have been driven, by distress, without feeling any sympathy for their sufferings, or pointing out any mode by which they may be alleviated. The following short Extract of a Letter from Birmingham, which we also find in the same English Papers, may be well introduced here, to shew that it is not a mere love of disorder and anarchy that has led to this, but the irresistible cries of want. The Extract is as follows:

The distresses of this town are increasing beyond all precedent, the crowds of applicants for parochial relief, exceed the worst periods of the late ruinous war. On whatever side we look, we find nothing but suspicion and dismay, manufactories closed for one, two, or three months, 'till trade shall have improved'; or, others opened partially for two or three days in the week, just to enable the industrious mechanic to drag out his wearisome existence, or in other words, to obtain half a belly full. American orders there are none, nor can we obtain the cash for what has been exported thither.—The paper system appears to have received a check in all quarters of the world, at the same period, and the American Bank, though not so extensive as our own, seems to be quite as mysterious in its transactions. Our merchants were in expectation that the successes of the South American Patriots would have opened a new source of commercial enterprise, but the recent passing of the Foreign Enlistment Bill, will leave no very favourable impression on the minds of these brave people, to induce them to enter into any mercantile speculations with this country, beyond what mere necessity dictates. 'Tis thus these heaven-born ministers show their attention to the interests of the country, by invariably using their utmost endeavours to prevent us sharing the bounty, the liberal hand of providence designed to bless us with.—Perhaps they conceive we are so near the period of a general insolvency, that it would be unfair to rob our creditors by opening any new accounts.

The Highlanders.—A number of these poor people have lately been driven away from their habitations, by the agents of the Marchioness of Stafford, lately Countess of Sutherland. This personage had let a town-ship, which formed part of her immense property, to a new tenant, for a sheep-farm; and to give him entire possession, 300 cottages were burnt, and at least 3000 of the miserable inhabitants were ejected without any provision for their support! "We hold no opinion," says the *Scotsman*, "in common with those who blame her Ladyship for turning her estate into sheep walks. On the contrary, we think that every Highland proprietor who has done so, has really conferred a benefit on the country; but it is impossible to vindicate her from the charge of having suddenly deprived a helpless peasantry of their accustomed means of subsistence, and of having left those who looked up to her as their protectress, to struggle with the extremes of poverty and famine." The tenants have associated for the purpose of facilitating their emigration to America.

Half pay Officers.—It was stated by Lord Palmerston, in the Parliamentary debate on Sir H. Parnell's Resolutions, that though it had been neglected to bring in a Bill to do away the necessity of Half-pay Officers making an affidavit that they held no other appointment under Government, the Treasury would do this in effect, and enable them to receive other emoluments, amounting to three times their half-pay, in this manner;—The Treasury would give Half-pay Officers, holding civil appointments, a military allowance equal to and in lieu of their half-pay, and for such allowance no oath would be required respecting civil offices. At present Half-pay Officers swear that they hold no office civil or military, &c. the alteration proposed is, that they hold no military office, which exceeded three times the rate of half-pay,

Letter of Jeremy Bentham.

(Author of the celebrated Work on the Repeal of the Usury Laws, and the more recent Publication, called Church of Englandism.)

Observations on the late Speech from the Throne; on the late Circular Letter from Lord Viscount Sidmouth, Secretary of State for the Home Department, to Lord Lieutenants of Counties; on a Bill of Indictment for Sedition, found at Knarford, in Cheshire, against Sir Charles Wolseley and another; and on Two of the late Acts, for preventing Communication of Sentiments between Man and Man.—By Jeremy Bentham.

Pursuing his well-known comprehensive views, his Lordship, I observe, has, on the present occasion, taken effectual care not to stand exposed to any such imputation, as that of not having taken his ground large enough. In his Lordship's place, an ordinary man might have been satisfied with the giving it in charge to the official persons in question, "to bring to justice those offenders by whom they (speaking of the laws) shall have been violated." But no; a provision thus limited was not sufficient to fill up the measure of his Lordship's prudence, accordingly, instead of any such phrase as *shall have been*, his Lordship's wisdom has employed the more simple, yet more comprehensive phrase, *may be*; accordingly, the persons who, it is his Lordship's pleasure, shall thus be dealt with, are, "those offenders, by whom they (meaning the laws) may be violated." "May be violated." What means this word *may*? Not *may lawfully*; for, in that case, the proposition would be a self-contradictory one; *lawfully*, no laws can be violated. If it means any thing, then, it means, *may possibly*. But, by *possibility*, the laws in question may, like all other laws, be violated by all persons; to whom the physical power of violating them is not wanting; so that here the persons, whose liberties, and eventually their lives, are, for the purpose in question, thus placed at the disposal of the official persons thus honoured by his Lordship's confidence, are, *all persons without exception*. All persons whatsoever!—What can be more comprehensive, or, to his Lordship, and the other official persons in question, more convenient?

Oh no (says somebody)! not all persons without exception; for, as you yourself have just been shewing, in addition to those other words, we have the word "offenders;" and by that word, the description of the persons in question stands limited. *Offenders*? Not all persons whatsoever, was it his Lordship's intention to envelop in his operation? No: but such persons, and such alone, as being capable of violating the laws, shall at a prior time not specified, but still at some prior time, have been *offenders*.

Alas! in vain could this security, such as it is, be held out to us; for, though here is a limitation in words, little, if any limitation is there in effect. By our own weekly confession, all we Church of Englandists, from the monarch on the Throne down to the Pauper in the Poor-house, and the Felon in the Penitentiary-house, are, as I have had occasion to observe elsewhere, "*Miserable sinners*;" and, with or without confession, what is little, if any thing less than true is, that, with little, if any exception, besides that of the King, who is under the happy incapacity of doing wrong, to which I suppose, is to be added the Prince Regent, acting in the name and behalf of his Majesty, we are all of us, in some way or other, *offenders*; at any rate, what is certain is, that all such of us are, as are in the habit of either writing, publishing, reading, or hearing Newspapers; for if every Newspaper that has ever been printed is not a libel, then no one is; and what is above is the A. B. C. of libel laws; ask Lord Coke else, that Lord Coke whom so many Gentlemen are so fond of.

No less vain would be the observation, that whether they have or have not violated the laws, and whether they be or be not offenders, all the desire his Lordship on this occasion has expressed, and therefore all the desire he can justly be considered as entertaining, is that the persons in question should be "brought to justice;" and, be the person who he may, where (it may be asked) can be the harm in his being brought to justice? Vain, I say, any such observation. Considered in itself justice, it is true, is a very charming thing.

But, on different occasions, different things are meant by it. On the present occasion, then, what is meant by it? For answer to this question, we turn of course, to the practice of this same once Learned and now Noble Person, on former occasions; and by this interpretation, "*bring to justice*" means; consign a man, in the first instance, to a prison, thence, perchance, to be, at some time or other liberated; provided always, that he has money enough to pay, the costs of being defended or betrayed, which is more than what one in from five to ten of his Majesty's subjects have; in this least probable case, thence, I say, to be at one time or other liberated; or, in the more probable case, there to stay till he rots.

What, in the penning and distributing of that Official Circular, it was Lord Sidmouth's intention to accomplish, is what I will not take upon me to say. But, what I will, and hereby do take upon me to say, and without difficulty, is, that if it were my lot to be in possession of arbitrary power, and my position to make the most flagitious use of it, and rather to decimate or extirpate the whole people, than see carried into effect any system of Reform by which any efficient check might be opposed to it, I cannot at present think of any course more congenial to such a disposition than the one which, with intentions of unquestionable purity, I observe thus taken by his said Lordship. In like manner, it being a Magistrate, of the sort of those who being all of them select men, selected for such purposes by his Majesty's Ministers, are in every county in such abundance, and, being of the accommodating disposition above described, it had happened to me to know or suspect any man to be well disposed towards Reform in any shape, or, in a word, to be on any other account a troublesome man, and it appeared to me that he was too poor to purchase, and too obscure to obtain on other terms the protection of the law in such sort as that "God should send him a good deliverance." I should, at my leisure, give him a ticket of admission to some proper goal, assured of receiving at the hands of his Lordship's loyalty, and justice, with or without the trouble and formality of an Indemnity Act, such support, protection, and indemnity as the case might require.

If any thing more could be requisite for the dispelling of those doubts which, on these occasions, will sometimes be troublesome to over-scrupulous minds, the late Speech from the Throne might amply suffice to clear a man's mind of any such troublesome companions. Certain persons, I observe, are therein described by the name of "those" who, under the pretence of Reform, have really "no other object but the subversion of our happy Constitution;" and these are the persons "whose projects" and "machinations" the Lords and Gentlemen addressed, are exhorted to "use their utmost endeavours, in co-operation with the Magistracy to defeat."

Now, Sir, so it happens, that, amongst others, some of whom are, I hope, well meaning, howsoever misguided men, I have my "project of Reform;" and that, though certainly without any the slightest hope of seeing it during my life-time brought into effect, I am employing those "machinations," of which this is one, for the chance of helping to give effect to it. But the misfortune is, that, however well meaning I may be, should it happen to my case, to come for interpretation before any of those Lords, Gentlemen or Magistrates, of whose utmost endeavours the Prince Regent's advisers, and amongst them Lord Sidmouth, have no doubt; I should be told, that this project of mine, "if successful, could only aggravate those evils which it is professed to remedy;" that accordingly what I call a Reform is not a Reform but quite the contrary; and that therefore my profession, in regard to Reform, is no better than a "pretence;" and thus, without any the smallest difficulty, I should be dealt with in the manner intimated, at the pleasure of any of those official persons to whom my project should happen to be an object of displeasure.

If, therefore, being an inhabitant of, or traveller in any one of the countries for the peace of which the provision in question has been, or shall have been made, it were my misfortune to feel myself under the obligation of assigning, on this occasion, an intention, corresponding in its comprehensiveness, to that of the comprehensive minds in question, I see not how it could be less comprehensive than this—namely, than the intention that, if by my word of mouth, or by my writing, it shall have happened to me to have uttered any thing in favour of Reform in any shape, I shall, by the official persons in question, with the support and assistance of "the Yeomanry Cavalry" in the said letter mentioned, be arrested and imprisoned, bayoneted, shot, or hanged, as the case may require; and that, if imprisoned, I shall, in pursuance of this great State Physician's favourite recipe (extracted from the pharmacopoeia of the Holy Roman Inquisition) for the prevention of all abuse, be kept, and applied, I am assured, to practice, in the case of the Milbank Penitentiary, by the Gaolers, in a state of invisibility to every other mortal eye, with the exception of such as shall have been honoured with a special permit from his Lordship, or some official person specially honored with his Lordship's confidence.

For my own part, I am neither resident, nor have I at present in contemplation to become a traveller, in any one of the only counties to the Lord Lieutenants of which this Circular has as yet, to my knowledge, been addressed. But, besides that the fate of other persons embarked in the same cause cannot be altogether an object of indifference to me, I know not how soon the benefit of the same prudence may be extended to the county in which I live; and accordingly, seeing my danger, I cannot but be desirous that, in the same point of view, it should be seen by all those who are partakers in it,

and who, if they know how (which I am sure is more than I do, except, peradventure, by doing according to the proverb, as men do in Rome or Spain,) would, of course, not be sorry to obtain security against it.

In a Paper, purporting to be a Copy of the Bill of Indictment, found at the Chester Quarter Sessions, on Tuesday, the 13th of July, 1819, against Sir Charles Wolseley, Baronet, and J. Harrison, Schoolmaster, I find it charged, amongst other things, that they "being persons of a turbulent and seditious disposition," &c. "with force of arms," &c. "did conspire," &c. "to invite and stir up the people to hatred and contempt of the Government and Constitution," &c. Now what is certain is, that I do not, in my own mind, ascribe to Lord Sidmouth, or to any of his Lordship's colleagues, any such intention, as that of inciting the people to hatred and contempt of the Government and Constitution in question;—no nor of any other Government, if any such there were, under which they could enjoy so many good things in such full security, giving themselves, at the same time, the amusement of doing so many evil things, with or without the formality of acts of indemnity, with such full impunity. Far be it from me so much as to insinuate, that in any thing they do, however may be the case with some things which they say, there is so much as a tendency to excite in the people, towards the said Government and Constitution, any such sentiments as contempt. Neither by the Emperor of Constantinople, nor by the Emperor of Morocco, black as his Imperial Majesty is said to be, nor even by the King of Spain, does it appear to me, how any such sentiments can generally have been excited in the breast of their respective subjects. But as to hatred—hatred towards the Government and Constitution in question, if it were really among my objects to excite in the breast of the people the sentiment thus denominated, I cannot immediately think of any other course more promising, than that which I see pursued, in and by these several interesting documents: the late Speech from the Throne, the late Circular from the Majesty's Secretary of State, Lord Viscount Sidmouth, and the Bill of Indictment so found against Sir Charles Wolseley Baronet, and J. Harrison, Schoolmaster, as aforesaid.

If any doubt can yet be entertained, respecting the comprehensiveness of his Lordship's view, a clause in a Statute of the year before last, may be found amply sufficient for the removal of it. By that Act (57 Geo. 3. c. 19. s. 25) referring for its completion to a former Act (39 Geo. 3. c. 79. s. 8) two years imprisonment, or, at the option of the Judges, seven years transportation, is I see, provided,—for him, who, being a member of "any Society or Club" shall, as such, entertain any correspondence with any individual—or, being an individual, shall entertain any correspondence with the Members of any Society or Club, as such; and that, whatsoever be the purpose for which such Society or Club was instituted or kept on foot, and whether it had or had not any relation to politics; with only a few special exemptions, in favour of the Free Mason's Society, of which so many personages of Royal blood are Members,—certain Societies of a religious complexion,—and such other Societies, in which those persons for whose use all other persons are kept alive, are likely to find themselves.

To fill up the measure of His Lordship's security, one thing yet remains: and that is,—to inhibit, under the same or other more effectual penalties, every communication between individual and individual for any purpose whatsoever. In the mean time, such as above is the condition, in which, under this our "happy Constitution" as it is called, we live: such, as above described—so replete with hatred towards the Government—would, in the opinion of the framers of these Acts, be the sentiments of the people, if any free interchange of sentiments were capable of taking place. Thrice happy Constitution! under which, without being liable to be imprisoned or transported (certain privileged orders excepted), no two persons dare interchange sentiments with any third.

JEREMY BENTHAM.

Wednesday morning, July 21, 1819.

Custom-House Oaths.—Memorials have been lately sent to the Lords of the Treasury, from many of the principal merchants of Liverpool and of Hull, praying for a revision and correction of those statutes which enforce the taking of certain useless and unmeaning oaths in Custom House transactions, intended to secure the revenue from fraud, but which, in fact, cannot be taken without the commission of virtual perjury. The memorials having been favorably received, there is reason to hope that this practice, which has long been a proverbial disgrace to morality and religion, will soon be abolished.

Dinner to General D'Evereux.

Dublin, July 19.—The Dinner to be given to our distinguished countryman, General D'Evereux, of the South American Patriot Service, will take place this day at Morrison's. It will be one of the most splendid and most numerous, as well as respectfully attended, that was ever given in Dublin on any former occasion.—That patriotic and truly liberal Irishman, Lord Cloncurry, will take the Chair.

The following are copies of the Invitation and Answer:—

To Major-General D'Evereux, &c. &c. &c.

Sir—The Irish Friends of South American Independence, request the honour of your company at a public Dinner, on Monday, the 19th instant. They are anxious to offer you this humble testimony, not only of the sense they entertain of the character you have acquired, but of their anticipation that your future services will prove alike valuable to your cause and honourable to your country.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient faithful servant,

DANIEL O'CONNELL, Sec.

Morrison's, Nassau-street,

July 17, 1819.

To Daniel O'Connell Esq.

Sir—I have the honour of your letter, conveying to me an invitation of the Irish friends of South American Independence to a Public Dinner on Monday next.

I accept the invitation with the liveliest feelings of respect and gratitude towards those gentlemen who thus manifest the interest they take in the cause of the New World; for it is to the merits of this cause alone I must consider myself indebted for so distinguished an honour. To render my future exertions valuable to South America, and serviceable as well as honourable to my country, will be my study and my ambition.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient and faithful servant,

JOHN D'EVEREUX.

Gresham's Hotel,

July 17, 1819.

Levee.—Yesterday, General D'Evereux held a Military Levee at Morrison's, Dawson-street. Among the company present, which was numerous and fashionable, we observed a number of fine women. The General on entering the room, was received with a burst of applause. He was accompanied by his Staff and the Officers of the First Lancers of his Legion. At half past three, Colonel Lyster entered, supported by a number of Officers bearing, by desire of the General, the new stand of colours for Colonel Aylmer's Regiment, General D'Evereux then addressed the Corps as follows:—

Brother Soldiers.—This Standard you will receive from the hands of a Lady who admires the motives which prompt you to leave your country, and, in the hour of danger, I feel satisfied that the recollection of this day will animate you in its defence, and stimulate you to deeds of glory. I trust and am convinced, I shall ever behold this standard a pledge of your fidelity and your honour; and that, in rallying round it, you will always shed a lustre upon Ireland [loud and reiterated cheers followed this Address which was delivered with grace and feeling].

The Lady of Counsellor O'Connell, taking the Colours from the General, addressed the Colonel and his Officers to this effect:—

Gentlemen.—I have the honour to present you this Flag, which I am sure you will not cherish the less for being handed to you by an Irishwoman, who admires and loves those emotions of courage and sentiments of liberality which bear you far from your native land. May success and glory attend your steps, and peace and happiness crown your efforts. This, Gentlemen, shall be my sincere prayer. (Mrs. O'Connell was very impressive, but was evidently much affected towards the conclusion of the Address, which was followed by cheering and waving of hats.)

Seldom has there been seen in a single regiment, so fine a corps of Officers as those of the Lancers; they were the admiration of all present.

The General went round a vast circle, paying his respects to his friends, and at a quarter before five the Levee broke up—every one delighted with the imposing spectacle, so cheering to every friend of suffering humanity. An immense number of people surrounded the House.

at
of
t-
at
ra
st
th
n-
ut
a-
nd
y
is
an
ca,
dy

X.

at
was
The
use.
an-
up-
ral,
eral

nda
our
lec-
a to
this
ral-
and
race,
the

nich
y am
and
May
own
Mrs.
to
ring
corps
all
his
one
of
the

Public Concert.

Mr. and Mrs. Lacy's Fifth Concert was held on Monday evening last, and opened with a fine treat of instrumental and vocal Music from Handel.

Whether it was the absence of the Marquis and Marchioness of Hastings, the prevalence of other Entertainments, the interference of private parties, or from what cause we know not, but we regretted to observe that the company were much less numerous on this than on any former occasion, and we have so much difficulty in attributing this to any indifference to the charms of so refined and exquisite a species of pleasure, that we would fain seek the cause of so thin an attendance in any other source than a want of musical taste, or a deficiency of musical feeling.

The Overture to the Messiah was deficient only in the numerical strength of the Orchestra, to give it full effect. The vocal part, however, fully compensated for this;—and the fine Recitative of *Comfort ye, comfort ye my people*, as well as the succeeding Song *Every valley shall be exalted*, was at once grand, beautiful, and impressive.

Mozart's Duo of *Crudel perchè fin ora*, is a great and deservedly general favorite among the admirers of that Composer, but it did not seem to be sufficiently appreciated here.

Pleyel's Concertante, for two Violins principal, and accompaniments for a full band, was performed with great taste by the leaders, and well accompanied throughout.

Cooke's Song of *Farewell to the Nymph of my heart*, furnished an acceptable opportunity of our hearing Mr. Lacy's voice in the full mellowness as well as purity and strength of its tenor notes, and there were few who did not derive as much pleasure from his manner of singing this single Song, as from the most elaborate efforts of skill in more difficult compositions.

The old Venetian Canzonetta, *Sul margine d'un rio*, is known to every one; and its great popularity is sufficient proof of its merit. The sweet notes which Mrs. Lacy might, without a metaphor, be said to have warbled forth in this Song, were listened to with a silence and fixed attention that bespoke intense feelings of delight. The playful manner in which she sported with her voice, in the apparently capricious but always scientific modulations of her cadences, was as charming as it was wonderful; and while a deep sigh of pleasure was heard from one side, a whisper escaped on the other from among the audience, saying, "how beautiful! how divine!" and speaking more praise than the loudest burst of applause.

Dr. Clarke's Glee of *Is it the roar of Teviot's Tide?* was a fine, bold, and rough relief to the melting luxury of the preceding strain. The voices in this Glee were well accorded, and the harmony complete. The challenge of the River Spirit—"Sleepest thou, Brother?" was admirably expressed by Mrs. Lacy; and the whole of the response of the Mountain Spirit, beginning—"Brother, Nay"—was as finely given by Mr. Lacy's deep and commanding powers. The lines beginning

Merry elves, their morrice pacing,
To aerial minstrelsy;
Emerald rings on brown heath tracing,
Trip it deft and merrily.

were both sung and accompanied in a manner that no description can convey a just idea of. The most inventive faculty could not have created or combined sounds more characteristically suited to the language they were to clothe; and the staccato passages of the Piano in alto, like the miniature notes of the Musical Boxes now so much in use, gave so perfect an idea of a Fairy Dance, that one could almost see the merry tripping elves tracing their emerald circles on the heath, while the summons that followed

Up—and mark their nimble feet,
Up—and list their music sweet,

pronounced as it was with so much energy and admiration, prepared one to rouse whatever lingering feeling might yet have remained dormant, and strain every nerve to hear and see, and feel, and drink the delicious sounds of the aerial Concert thus brought tangible to every mortal sense.

The moving and melancholy minor strains in which the River Spirit sang

Tears of an imprison'd Maiden,
Mix with my polluted stream,

were the most perfect specimens of deep-wrought feeling and expression, that even Mrs. Lacy herself could, we think, ever give, and conveyed to us a more striking proof of the power of Music to increase the force and eloquence of the most expressive Poetry, than we almost ever remember to have heard.

The artificial discords and the wild and broken measure of the Mountain Spirit's Lament, for so it might be called, when he enumerates the untoward aspects of the heavenly signs, as boding heavy ill, were full of character, and like all the Music of Dr. Clarke, it seemed the greatest auxiliary which the Poet could command. The lines to which we particularly allude were these:—

Arthur's slow wain his course doth roll,
In utter darkness round the pole;
The Northern bear towers black and grim,
Orion's studded belt is dim;
Twinkling faint, and distant far,
Glimmers through mist each planet star;

Ill may I read their high decree.
But no kind influence deign they shower;
On Teviot's tide, and Branksome's tower,
Till pride be quell'd, and love be free.

To this magnificent assemblage of lofty sounds and poetic images, succeeded the full and flowing harmony of the four parts, in the closing stanza,

Th' unearthly voices cease,
And the heavy sound was still;
It died on the river's breast,
It died on the side of the hill.

and the falling harmonies of this beautiful cadence, for so the whole verse might be called, left one disposed rather to linger over it in recollection and prolong it by silence, than disturb the feeling by the applause which it so richly deserved.

The Second Act opened with a Symphony of Haydn, which was well played; and this was followed by a fine Recitative and Air of Handel, *Folle è colui che al tuo favor si fida*, sung a manner that evinced the most intimate acquaintance with that Composer's peculiar style of expression.

Ford's old and admired Glee *Since first I saw your face*, written as long ago as 1620, was as much admired as Matthew Lock's Music in Macbeth, of which we spoke in our report of the Fourth Concert, and it was entitled fully to all the praise it received. The depth and sincerity of regret, and the mixture of sorrow with despair, which both the language and the music jointly express, as well as the grave quaintness of the one, and the rigid simplicity of the other, produced a very striking effect, but that effect was so full of pleasure that there were few who did not wish it to be prolonged.

Paiesiello's Duo, between *Pandolfetto graziozetto* and *Zingarella ladroncella*, followed this, and was a remarkable instance of another kind of Lover's quarrel, which was quite as successfully expressed by Music as the former. The playful animation and light-hearted gaiety of this Italian Air was excessively pleasing. In character, it has some parts not unlike Rossini's *Se inclinasse a prender moglie*, which has become so universal a favorite, and like that, this Duo was strongly wished to be encored, tho' from some cause or other the attempt to express this wish was too faint to be unequivocally understood.

Moore's Irish Melody *'Tis the last Rose of Summer left blooming alone*, closed the Songs of the evening; and whatever we may have said of Mrs. Lacy's powers of giving force of expression combined with the greatest sweetness, to simple Songs of this description, would here deserve to be repeated. It was throughout beautiful, and full of pathos; and the irresistible appeal to the heart, in the closing Stanza, induced a melancholy, and a disclash of every other enjoyment, to such a degree that even *Viva Enrico!* was listened to with indifference, and the Finale played almost to an empty room. But if the Music, and the execution of it, was full of softness and expression,—who could refrain from giving loose to the influence of powerful sentiment and deep feeling, while hearing, clothed in the richest tones, words and thoughts like these?

So,—soon may I follow,
When Friendships decay,
And from Love's shining circle,
The gems drop away!
When true hearts lie wither'd,
And fond ones are flown,
Oh! who would inhabit
This bleak world alone?

Asiatic News.

Camp Rewarree.—A Letter from hence, dated Nov. 28, 1819, states that an Earthquake had been distinctly felt there on the morning of that day at half past six o'clock, the sensation of which possessed this singularity, that it was marked by one strong concussion, attended with a loud noise but not accompanied even in the slightest degree, with any undulatory motion.

Calcutta.—The following paragraphs are from the Times of yesterday.

Letters from England say that Dr. Shoolbred and family, late of this Presidency, had set out on a voyage to Greece.

It appears that Baron De Richemond Des Bassyns and Mr. Montbrun Des Bassyns have proceeded straight to Benares, whence they are to return via Patna.

On Monday last, the 27th instant, at about two o'clock in the morning, a budgerow coming down from Chandernagore ran foul, of one of the Governor's barges, near Barrackpore, and being old and crank, immediately filled and sunk. A whole family was asleep on board; some of them contrived to swim ashore; others, among whom were a young woman and two children, were found no more. The whole precise loss of lives, caused by this melancholy accident, is not yet known.

The last Bombay and Madras Gazettes that have reached us, furnish few articles of intelligence beyond the items which are thrown under their respective heads in our last page. The Ceylon Gazette which came to hand yesterday, contain the following paragraphs:—

CEYLON CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

NOVEMBER 27, 1819.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to make the following Appointments in H. M. Civil Service.

C. E. Layard, Esq. to be Provincial Judge of Jaffna.

C. Scott, Esq. to be Provincial Judge of Colombo, to take effect from the 1st of December next.

By His Excellency's Command,

(Signed) JOHN RODNEY, Chief Sec. to Govt.
Chief Secretary's Office Co-
lombo, Nov. 27, 1819.

Major General Sir Edward Barnes set off for Galle on Tuesday afternoon, accompanied by Lieut. Colonel Hamilton—Sir Edward returned to Colombo yesterday evening.

After our Paper went to the press on Saturday, the *Albion* again came to an anchor, for the purpose of taking on board a passenger, (W. H. Ker, Esq., of the Civil Service.) She sailed again on Monday morning, but was obliged by contrary winds and currents again to come in the same evening—and she did not finally proceed on her voyage to England until Wednesday.

The *Providence* came in sight from Galle on Monday, but was driven to leeward of the port by the strong Northerly current—her Captain and Passengers are on shore.

The *Suzer* came in from Penang on Sunday with recruits for H. M. 1st Ceylon Regt.—she proceeded last evening, to Bombay.

The *Pilot* sails on Monday for Bengal with the Head-quarters of the 1st Battalion Ceylon Bengal Volunteers—a very small part of the regiment, which is the last which remains of the Auxiliary force, is left at Colombo.

We understand that the *Maister* will shortly sail from Galle for England, with part of the 19th Regiment.

Supreme Court.—The Fourth Criminal Session for the year 1819, for the Town, Fort, and District of Colombo, was opened before the Honble Henry Byrne, Puisne Justice, on Tuesday the 16th, and closed on Wednesday the 24th instant, when the following Prisoners convicted were Sentenced.

1. Appoll—for aiding in the escape of a Prisoner. Sentenced to be employed at hard labour in Chains for one year.
2. Sota—for receiving Stolen goods. Sentenced to be employed at hard labour in Chains for three years.
3. Juan—for receiving Stolen goods. Sentenced to be employed at hard labour in Chains for two years.

Great Pokur Fair.

From a Letter, dated Camp in Rajpootana, 29th of November, 1819, transmitted for the Calcutta Journal.

The Pokur Fair, which terminated on the 3d instant, though better than the preceding one, has by no means fulfilled the expectations which had been formed. At the last Fair of 1818, we were told, that under the recent disorders which had afflicted the country, we could not expect that matters would so soon find their ancient level, or the people of the surrounding regions their confidence, especially as our's was a new government—but wonders were anticipated by many, from the Fair of this year. Those who had formerly been in the habit of frequenting it, would hear of the security enjoyed the past year, and of the encouragement and facilities experienced under the Proclamation of the Resident at Delhi, inviting the presence and the confidence of the mercantile class, with a reduction of the former duties to one-half. The most sanguine anticipated from these politic measures, a complete restoration of the Great Pokur Fair.

The Commissariat was to purchase a re-mount of Horses for the Cavalry of the three Presidencies, and Camels to the greatest possible extent. The Fair over, 29 Horses were shared between the 1st and 2d Light Cavalry on the spot; each Corps, I believe, wanting about 100 to complete. A few Camels were obtained by individuals at good prices, being in great demand, owing to the Relief; but the Commissariat, which was so destitute and distressed as hardly to be able to provide the Public Camels for two Corps then about to march, did not obtain a number worth mentioning—not a tithe, I fancy, of the number deficient in Rajpootana alone.

A question of very serious import to the Government and to the efficiency of the Army, here presents itself. The re-mount of our Cavalry, and the supply of Cattle, (Camels chiefly), to the Commissariat. The wants of both are annually increasing, while the means or sources of supply really appear on the other hand to diminish. Nothing, therefore, could be better timed than the recent General Order, permitting the Commanding Officers, &c. of mounted Regiments to purchase Horses on every fair occasion for re-mount, as the inadequacy of the former mode of supply was evident. As for the Camels it is notorious, that nearly the whole (public or private), in these and the adjacent Districts, have perished in the last two years; partly twice over in that period, as far as respects the marching stock of our Rajpootana Division. The Camel of these regions, proves after all, to be of an inferior description, being slight, very liable to sickness, and fitter for Sarnis than Baggage. The Punjabi and Scinde Camels are those most sought after, being strong, bony, wide chested, short legged, and far more hardy and healthy than the Marwarra Camel.

It was commonly supposed that one cause of the acquisition of the Ajmere District, by our Government, (by some exchange with Dowlut Rao Scindea,) was the temptation held out by the possession of the Pokur Fair, for the supply of our Cavalry and Commissariat, Pokur must, however, for some years have ceased to exhibit these attractions, which was justly attributed to the confused state of the country; in which, what, between the exactions of Bapoojee Scindea, and the plunderings and robberies of hordes of other Banditti, (even to within a coss of the place itself,) the merchants or devotees seldom escaped scot-free; in fact, scot and lot were levied pretty freely by all parties, on those whom trade or devotion brought to the Mila, from Bapoo Scindea himself, down to the Chief of 10 or 20 robbers. But the same reason which held good the first year of our sovereignty, for the miserable display at the Fair, can hardly be admitted on the very moderate improvement which has resulted in the second; for the security and other advantages which the people enjoyed in the first case, must have been widely promulgated by the second period. 'Tis not quite unfair, therefore, to conclude that the advantages or the *shew* of cattle, &c. in former years, at the Pokur Fair, have been much exaggerated and over-rated by the natives, as well as the cheap prices, which we have found raised nearly 100 per cent, even for inferior articles.

The Government have, however, a much better reason, and have acted with undoubted wisdom and foresight, in securing a District adequate to the maintenance of a large force, and a commanding position for its arms, very nearly central with respect to all the Rajpoot powers. We have a noble place of arms, and a depot in the City of Ajmere and Fortress of Taraghur, (the garrison of which surrendered to us without contest, in a most remarkable manner); and we require such an advantage, considering that we are separated by a line of 230 miles from our own frontier and military resources, and that two powerful and nearly independant states, intervene between us and our provinces on the Jumna. We are nearly equi-distant, (about 10

marches) from Jhondpoor and Oodipoor, bearing S. W. and South. Jypoor is 80 miles E. N. E. and being perhaps the most troublesome and intriguing portion, as well as the most wealthy (and powerful, were it not for the factions which agitate them,) of all Rajpootana, our protecting vicinity to that capital is well judged.

As the Ajmere District is said to yield a Revenue of about 3 lacs per annum: the pay of the Division there, and of the Civil Establishment; must chiefly be imported from other provinces, unless the Rajpoot Princes are made to pay the difference on the spot, by way of subsidy, for the protection afforded. But, we are told the Jhradpoor Raja declines our assistance, or any nearer connection with us than as neighbours and friends: no alliance, no contingent, no subsidy.

The progress of improvement, necessarily slow, is however certain, and gratifying to every man of English feelings, and habits of observation. We are now marching through the Rajpoot States, and the prospect (to the visible eye at least), is still truly desolate and forlorn; and with the Ajmere District may be said, from its extreme nakedness and monotony, more to resemble an extensive waste, or adarsat than any thing else. The few villages, with their small circles of green fields, shewing a want of hands, rather than of rural skill, resemble the Oases in the Deserts of Egypt, or the small green islets which refresh the eye in the boundless waste of the Pacific and Southern Oceans.

The parts belonging to us will recover sooner than the rest, under the influence of humane laws, and the security of a powerful Government; but even this cannot be rapid, owing to causes beyond our reach. Few traces were left of tillage, population, or even of the ancient splendour of these imperial districts. Tillage and inhabitants augment; but it will take many, many years of peace to restore, what gives life and animation to the scene; the verdant foliage, the "cheerful grove," dispensing at once pleasure and profit to the country; or the ruined edifice or any work of art, which the hand of the spoiler had touched, or the expatriation and desertion of a bold peasantry had unavoidably left to perish by neglect. P. P.

Something Worth of Adoption.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

Your polite insertion of my Communication in your Journal of the 22d of October last, induces me to resume my pen:—

I have observed with feelings of very sensible regret and indignation, the Gallic importations of frivolity, that have recently invaded the chaste taste, for which our British Drawing Rooms have been more peculiarly celebrated, than those of any other nation.

Still, Sir, while deprecating these unhappy imitations, I would not cynically declaim, in the round language of Horace, against the whole herd of servile imitators.

There is a simple little Gallic rule, for the introduction of which into our Military Law proceedings, I would fain plead in the most urgent terms; for in revolving in my mind the different bearings of the French rule, I have not succeeded in discovering any weighty objections, that might militate against its adoption in the proceedings of British Courts Martial.

Should any such exist, I doubt not, Sir, that they will be recorded in your valuable columns, in the same amicable spirit that has hitherto distinguished the several Military Discussions in your Journal, and which is a small but deeply sincere indication of that gratitude, with which every well regulated mind must be inspired, for the boon of Freedom of Discussion, so gloriously accorded by our estimable and benevolent Governor General.

The rule I venture to plead for the adoption of, is that which regulates the collection of the Votes of Members of a Court Martial. In the French service, the mode followed, is for every Member, successively, to write down his award, and folding over what he may have written, to pass the record.

By this silent collection of votes, all possibility of extraneous bias is effectually guarded against; for I conceive, Sir, that the bias will exist, while "to err is human."

I have confined myself to this very concise "putting of the question," not that there are not many other collateral aids that might be urged, but from the conviction, that they will not fail to present themselves to the view of any candid and enlightened investigation.

In conclusion, I entreat it may be believed that no "encosthes scribendi" impells me again to appear in your columns; but, that it alone proceeds from the recollection of our great English moralist's remark, "that to arrive at the true judgment, we must filtrate our ideas through other men's minds." I am Sir, Your's faithfully,

Central India, Nov. 5th 1819.

CLEMENS.

Pestilential Antiquities.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Mirror.

SIR,

In the discussion of Dr. McLean's opinions lately copied by the Editor of the Calcutta Journal from an English publication, the author endeavours to prove that "they are any thing but new," and have been taken from remote antiquity. As illustrative of the important medical questions, at present undergoing investigation in Britain as well as in India, it may be interesting to some of your readers to be informed, that the opinion maintained by Dr. Tytler, so far from being original, as is generally conceived, actually existed so long back as the days of *Æsculapius*. For in the account that has descended to us of Jason's adventures, and those of the fifty four heroic Argonauts, who undertook along with him the voyage to *Colchis*, for the purpose of obtaining the golden fleece, the son of *Apollo* was their physician: or, as we may express his situation with the refinement of modern language, this deified Gentleman held the appointment of Superintending Surgeon to the Expedition. But the journey to *Colchis* arose in consequence of a distemper occasioned by the employment of noxious grain, which event is thus recorded.—"As *Nephele* was subject to certain fits of madness; *Athamas* repudiated her, and took a second time *Ino*, by whom he had soon after two sons, *Learehus* and *Melicerta*. As the children of *Nephele* were to succeed to their father by right of birth, *Ino* conceived an immortal hatred against them, and she caused the city of *THEBES* to be visited by a pestilence, by poisoning all the grain which had been sown in the earth. Upon this the oracle was consulted, and as it had been corrupted by means of *Ino*, the answer was, that *Nephele's* children should be immolated to the immortal Gods." (Classical Dict. Art. *Argonautæ*.) It is remarkable, and may be adduced as confirming an opinion often maintained of the singular agreement observed to mark the conduct and ideas of idolaters in all ages even the most remote, that upon the first appearance of the Indian plague in August 1817, the natives were strongly inclined to propitiate *Kali* and *Oolah Beebee* with human sacrifices. (Vide Tytler's Narrative, and India Gazette.)

The pestilence described in the 5th & 6th chapters of *I Samuel*, it is also singularly worthy of observation occurred at the reaping of the harvest, or when the new grain was just bringing in from the field. For, "they of Bethshemesh were reaping their wheat harvest in the valley; and they lifted up their eyes, and saw the ark, and rejoiced to see it." *I Sam. chap. vi v. 13.* "And he smote the men of Bethshemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the Lord, even he smote of the people fifty thousand and threescore and ten men."—*Do. v. 19.* But, if I am not mistaken, this pestilence is said by *Josephus* to have been naturally caused, if the expression in this case be allowable from the acrimonious qualities of the new grain, which passed undigested through the bowels of the sufferers; and the disease itself, according to the same author was accompanied with symptoms analogous to those distinguishing the present distemper.

The opinion of Tytler, like that of McLean is therefore "any thing but new," and as the revival of a very ancient doctrine, I think it were as well if a little more attention were bestowed upon its investigation. The writer of the paper, printed in the Calcutta Journal, triumphantly refutes the absurd notions relative to the operation of atmospheric influence in the production of epidemics, and febrile diseases usually denominated contagious. Yet, in my humble opinion, he is wrong in entertaining the idea of the existence of specific contagious miasmata; because all the phenomena; which, for want of a better, we are in the habit of explaining by means of this imaginary agent, are undoubtedly rendered much more easily intelligible, under the supposition of general employment or extensive diffusion of unwholesome food. It is much to be regretted that McLean should be unacquainted with our Indian doctrine, so ardently promulgated by the Author of the *Oryza* system, because the opinions of both these Physicians in some points strikingly coincide. For example, McLean asserts the non-existence of contagion in the *Typhus* fever raging in Great Britain, and Tytler has often maintained, in letters under his own signature, as well as anonymous productions, which I have little doubt proceed from his fertile pen, that the *Typhus* fever prevailing in England would be found to depend upon the use of unwholesome food, and that *Typhus* fever in this country has proceeded from the employment of deleterious rice.

Should this opinion be hereafter corroborated, and its applicability to the Plague confirmed, the non-contagiousness of the latter will be satisfactorily established, and a cause assigned both fully equal to account for its production as an epidemic at particular seasons, and the anomalous symptoms which it occasionally exhibits in individual instances. 'Damaged grain,' it appears, is an admitted

cause of Plague, and the swelling of the lymphatic glands, frequently observed in this disease, may be explained upon the supposition of an acrid poison derived from corrupt vegetable matter, absorbed, during the process of digestion, into the general course of circulation, and which being deposited afterwards in the glands, excites inflammation and tumefaction of their substance.

Your obedient Servant,

A MEDICAL INQUIRER.

Calcutta, December 16, 1819.

Indian Army.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

I have perused with much attention the different Letters which have appeared in the Bengal Papers for new modelling the Indian Army; the plan which meets my approbation most, is that addressed to you by "A MADRAS OFFICER," dated Gooty, the 6th instant, a copy of which was put into my hands a few days ago; it appears to have the good of the Service in view, as well as other very important and desirable objects, and I should be happy to see it carried into effect. It is however to be regretted that the Suggestor of that Plan did not take an opportunity of adding, that Officers holding Staff situations, should be considered *superannuated*, and restricted to the net pay of their rank, as in His Majesty's Service; this would enable the Government to fill up the vacancies in the higher ranks (which should always be kept as complete as possible) without increasing the public expenditure. The immense promotion which the Plan above mentioned would give to the Army, would fully compensate for the diminution of allowances to Staff Officers; while the situation of those performing their (regimental) duties, would be made comfortable as well as respectable.

Hoping you will be pleased to insert this Letter in one of your columns,

I am, Sir, your humble Servant,

Battery, 25th Nov. 1819.

AN OLD OFFICER.

(Formerly on the Staff.)

Light Cavalry.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

Since my Letter to you of the 20th instant another (and I think a better) plan has occurred to me for improving the Light Cavalry, it is to form the present 8 Regiments, of 8 Troops each, into 6 Regiments of 12 Troops each, each Regiment to consist of two Divisions, (First and Second) of the Strength

Regt. (12 Div. (6 Troops.)	Divisions, (First and Second) of the Strength	noted in Margin, the Divisions to be separate and distinct from each other, with Staff, &c. in the same manner as the Battalions of a Regiment of Infantry, they will be found equal to the Strength of a Regiment of 6 Troops, previous to the recent augmentation.
Colonel, . . . 1	0	
Lieut. Cols., 2	1	
Majors, . . . 3	1	
Captains, . . 7	4	
Lieutenants, 14	7	
Cornets, . . . 8	4	
Serjeants, . . 2	2	
Subjiders, . . 12	6	
Jemidars, . . 32	6	
Havildars, . . 48	24	
Naigues, . . . 48	24	
Troopers, . . 540	420	
Trumpeters, 24	12	
1021	511	

This plan would give twelve disposable Corps instead of eight, but it would not cause any saving; it will however be satisfactory to know, that the Expense of the proposed 6 Regiments would not exceed that of the present 8 Regiments, viz. Monthly Expense of the present 8 Regiments, Rs. 2,95,000. Ditto of the proposed 6 Regiments, Rs. 2,90,000. Difference Rs. 5,000, which would provide for the Expense of the Staff of the 6 additional Corps, and the Off-recknings of the 2 additional Colonels, the advantage gained by this plan is four disposable Corps of the Line.

By inserting the above in your Journal as soon as convenient, you will much oblige

A MADRAS CAVALRY OFFICER.

Arcot, November 20, 1819.

* Three Captains to the second Division of each Regiment.

Domestic Occurrences.

MARRIAGES.

At Serampore, on the 27th instant, at the Danish Church, Arthur Johnson, Esq. to Miss Bridget Desocio.

At Cannanore, on the 14th of November, by the Rev. J. Donsterville, Lieutenant J. C. Padner, His Majesty's 69th Regiment, to Jennett, eldest Daughter of Quarter Master Steven, of the same Corps.

BIRTHS.

At Fort William, on the 2d instant, the Lady of Captain C. Coates, of His Majesty's 89th Regiment, of a Daughter.

On the 26th instant, the Lady of J. P. Larkins, Esq. of a Son.

On the 23d instant, Mrs. Locken, wife of Mr. Richard Locken, of the Honourable Company's Bengal Marine, of a Son.

On the 22d instant, Mrs. Samuel Potter, of a Son.

At Bombay, on the 2d instant, the Lady of James Farish, Esq. Civil Service, of a Daughter.

DEATHS.

On the 22d instant, Master Daniel McArthur, Son of Mr. John McArthur, aged 22 days.

On the 23d instant, Mr. William Lockwood, aged 25 years.

At Bombay, on the 2d instant, Mr. Assistant Surgeon Joseph Shepherd; At Cannanore, on the 26th of November, Frederic Reuben Rose, Son of Lieutenant F. Bond, Artillery, aged 6 weeks.

At Nagpore, on the 19th of November, R. B. Archbold, the infant Son of Mr. Quarter Master R. Archbold, Horse Artillery, aged 6 months and 9 days.

Erratum.—In noticing the Death of Maria Elizabeth, the wife of Mr. J. R. Douglas in our Obituary of yesterday, the date should have been the 26th instant, instead of the 20th, which appeared either through an error of the Press, or an indistinctness in the date of the Manuscript.

Shipping Intelligence.

CALCUTTA ARRIVALS.

(None)

CALCUTTA DEPARTURES.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destinations
Dec. 26	Fyzel Currim	Arab	Nacoda	Judda
26	Abbassy	Arab	Nacoda	Muscat

Passengers.

Correct List of Passengers proceeding on the ship *Boyne*, Captain B. Ferguson, for London.

Mrs. Duncan, McLeod; Mrs. Chamberlain; Mrs. Jones; Captain Forbes; Lieutenant T. O'Halloran; Doctor Shelton.

Children:—Misses Fanny and Maria O'Halloran; M. Ewing; Mary Alley; Isabella Blagden; Cecilia Burton; Emilia Hogg; H. and S. Bunbury; Clara and Eliza Scott; Joanna Jones; M. Loveday; Margaret Lamb; Harriot Yates; Henrietta McLeod; Jane Balfour. Masters George Lamb; Patrick G. McLeod; John Balfour; Arthur Burton; C. Yates; H. Cumming; W. Penny; Henry Fombelle Siddons; William Young Siddons; B. Harvey; J. Chalk; J. F. Scott; C. Chamberlain; F. Hogg.

Nautical Notices.

We learn by the Madras Gazette of the 11th instant, that the Wellington, Captain Wasse, was about to proceed to Trincomellie, with the view of ascertaining the damage she had sustained, from having touched on, what is supposed to be, the London Shoal.

The Indiana spoke the Minerva, J. Ballard, who reported the loss of the ship Harriett, Charles Bean, in the Surat passage. (in the latter end of October, or early in November); crew and part of the cargo saved, and on board of the Sandanny, Lindsay. [Times]

The Indian Oak touched at Malacca, which place she left on the 13th of November. On the 24th of November, she spoke the ship Po, and on the 9th instant, the ship Cochon, both on their way to Calcutta. She had encountered a very severe gale of wind somewhere in the neighbourhood of Manila, which lasted five days, and occasioned her considerable damage, besides the loss of all her boats. She was afterwards becalmed for a considerable time in the Bay. [Herald]

Printed at the Union Press, in Garstin's Buildings, near the Bankshall and the Exchange.